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Power of co-operation
Learn about the Haliburton County Community Co-opertative on page 2.

A Highlands tradition
Read abut this year's Robbie Burns celebration on pages 4 and 5.

Holiday smiles
See photos from ASES' holiday concert on page 3.

Hazel Orsan-Good watches her pinwheel spin during her Jack Rabbit group lesson on Saturday, Jan. 6. This year, the program has 83 children registered and is run by 30 volunteers. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

Haliburton Highlands Trekkers, an initiative supported by the Haliburton County Community Co-operative, enjoy an autumn hike at Barnum Creek Nature Reserve. /Photo Submitted

Harnessing the power of 'co-operation' for a stronger community

BRITNEY PAGLIUCA
County Life Staff

The Haliburton County Community Co-operative (HCCC or the "Co-op") has been operating since 1998, supporting initiatives throughout the county and facilitating connections that help with community development. Many of us recognize the Co-op as the core of local groups, like Haliburton Harvest, the Folk Society, and Minden Pride. However, you may be wondering about how the Co-op supports these groups and manages to be at the heart of so many diverse and inclusive parts of the community.

Jim Blake, president of HCCC, explains that the Co-op grew out of concerns about the closure of the Women's Emergency House in the 1990s. A group of motivated community members came together to develop strategies for creating community wealth that can be reinvested into programs that could help meet residents' needs.

Blake, who has been with the Co-op since its inception said, "It took time to develop the model we operate under today, but our mission has remained consistent": to support the ideas and projects of active and caring members in pursuit of community development and well-being.

The Haliburton Co-operative is unique in its operational structure, according to Blake and Martin. "Other communities, like Kawartha Lakes, have developed their own Co-operatives based on our model," Blake said.

Creating a community that people are proud to be a part of is made possible through this effective method of community action.

HCCC services

The HCCC operates on a model of community organization and governance. It consists of a board of directors who provide the infrastructure, resources, knowledge, and experience to community projects to help them achieve long-term success.

Each project that is taken on by the Co-op is provided with insurance, office support, and bookkeeping, and in return, pays the Co-op eight per cent of its gross revenue. "This creates a way for the projects to be sustainable and access resources that might otherwise be difficult to acquire," HCCC vice president Barrie Martin said. "It also allows for groups to avoid the complicated process of becoming incorporated."

HCCC board member, Pamala Marsales, added that as a member of the Co-op, each group is provided with the invaluable opportunity to receive guidance, mentorship, and knowledge from the board members, whose support and expertise can help projects reach new heights.

The Co-op also plays an important role in establishing significant connections among its different segments. "Everything belongs to and is shared amongst the Co-op collectively," Blake said, "If one group needs to access resources for events, for example, we can contact other members of the Co-op so that they can be shared." In this way, group members are not only pooling resources and minimizing spending but are also networking and expanding their connections within the community.

Creating new projects

New initiatives are formed when community members present their ideas to the Co-op. "It's important that a new initiative starts with a group of committed individuals and a thorough plan," Blake said. Each project should be self-sustaining and have its own management committee.

For example, Marsales, who is also the liaison for Haliburton Highland Trekkers, explains that the hiking, paddling, and snowshoeing group began as an informal snowshoeing group before it became a part of the Co-op. As the group grew, it found the need to secure insurance and a more formal structure, which they were able to access through the Co-op in 2011.

If the Co-op approves the project, the leaders will become members, and an HCCC board member will act as a liaison.

Before approving a new project, the Co-op also must consider whether it adheres to the Co-op's mandate by contributing to the social, cultural, environmental, and economic well-being of Haliburton County. "Each group has their own mandate and membership," Martin said, "but they still must fulfill the purpose of the Co-op."

Currently, HCCC supports 18 initiatives throughout the county that contribute to its vibrance, inclusivity, and connectivity. They include community festivals, artistic projects, environmental initiatives, groups that focus on healthy living, and community research programs.

"Without the Co-op, many of these projects just wouldn't exist," Martin said. However, he also emphasized that the number of initiatives supported by the Co-op is evidence of Haliburton residents' genuine concern and love for their community.

Giving back to our unique community

One of the things that Martin attributes to the Co-op's success is the level of dedication and volunteerism of Haliburton residents. "Everything at the Co-op happens at a grassroots level," he said. "It all comes from people in the community who have a desire to take action and contribute to making Haliburton a better place."

Haliburton is unique in the sense that so many of its residents are committed to making it a more diverse and dynamic community. From farmers' markets and art shows to parades and paddle groups. There really is a place for everyone here, and an opportunity to make new connections and meaningful contributions.

For Martin, the desire to give back to the community has grown out of his appreciation for Haliburton and all it has given him. Haliburton provides for us all and deserves our care in return.

The heart of this community touches every aspect of our lives. We all share the responsibility of shaping our home into a space we are proud of. For 25 years, HCCC, its board members, and volunteers have helped transform Haliburton into what we know today. Thanks to the Co-op, we can all participate in what takes place in our community and bring our ideas to life.

The young classes entertained the full house of parents, guardians, friends and families.

Deck the halls

Archie Stouffer Elementary School hosted their annual holiday concert on Dec. 20 in Minden. All the classes took part in the festive event. /TIM YANO special to *County Life*

Kids of all ages took to the stage to belt out their holiday favourites during the show.

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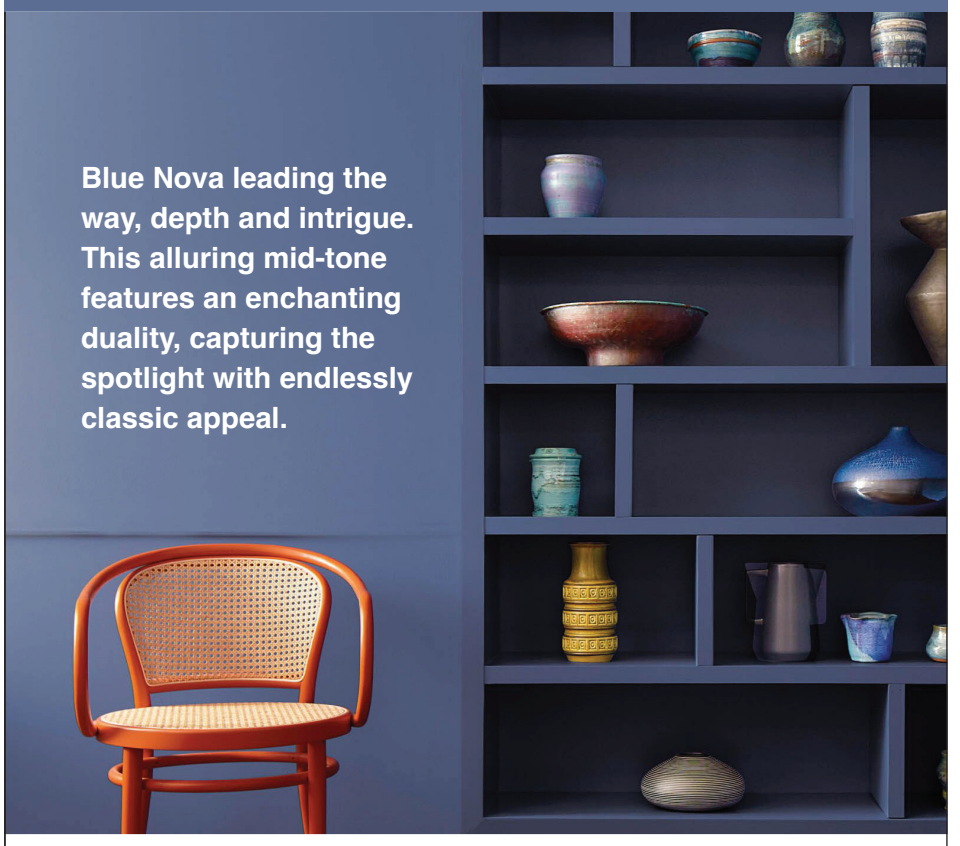

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‘Slàinte Mhaith’ in the name of Robbie Burns

VIVIAN COLLINGS
County Life Editor

Robbie Burns attendees learned a new dance last January. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Translating to “good health” from Gaelic, the famous 18th century Scottish poet and a ploughman will soon be toasted by Highlanders on Jan. 20.

Robbie Burns Night in the Highlands has been a longstanding tradition since the 70s.

The Haliburton Legion will be filled with the sound of bagpipes as tartans line walls and drape over tabletops.

Scottish fare, most importantly a haggis, will be brought in to sustain dancing and to be paired with drams of Scotch.

Robert, “Robbie”, Burns wrote over 550 poems in his short life.

He lived 5,000 kilometres away in Ayrshire, Edinburgh, and Dumfriesshire, Scotland nearly three centuries ago.

But one Highlands resident explained, it’s what lies within Burns’ poems that dissolves the distance.

It’s the reason for celebrating.

We may not be ploughmen living in cottages with our cattle, but key social struggles still present today were at the forefront of many of his humorous poems.

“He was born into a poor family, but he had a great mind,” said local piper Jim Thomson. “His father made sure he got an education when many other children around him didn’t.”

Thomson is a Scot through and through, but has been living in Canada for the past 50 years.

He lived less than 20 minutes from one of Burns’ homes near the west coast.

Thomson overturned pages in books from his personal library on Burns as he described the poet’s life.

“The illustrator of this book taught at Glasgow School of Art while I was attending,” Thomson said briefly.

He paused at a poem called *A Man’s a Man for All That.*

“It’s all to do with social structure. If you were born into a rich family, then you were obviously better off in society. In spite of all that, Robert Burns

see page 5

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from page 4

was born into a poor family, and he was able to find great success because of his mind," Thomson said. "Even though he didn't have a lot of money, 'A man's a man for all that,' he still became a great man."

One page of a book of history on Burns was bookmarked.

On the page, the name "Judge Haliburton" was highlighted, a reference to Thomas Chandler Haliburton, the very man of which Haliburton county gets its name.

"There was a centenary hosted 100 years after the birth of Robert Burns. All of the important people around went to this celebration, and judge Haliburton was one of them," Thomson said.

Thomson himself has been celebrating Burns since he was a "wee one".

"I learned to play the bagpipes at 10, and our pipe band always played at Burns suppers," he said.

He remembers the 200th anniversary of Burns' birth while attending university.

"They had a display of his work, and the one that stuck out to me was the original version of *A Red, Red Rose*. His penmanship was beautiful."

Thompson will be giving the *Address to a Haggis*, an important part of every Burns celebration before the haggis is eaten.

"Usually, the lower class worked on farms that didn't belong to them, which meant the animals didn't belong to them, either. People like Robert Burns and his family would get the leftovers from the Lords. Whatever was left over was made into haggis," Thomson explained.

The Haliburton Highlanders Pipes and Drums headed the Robbie Burns festivities on Saturday, Jan. 21 at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129. The band hopes to be able to have a larger celebration to invite the public to the event next year. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Any meat would be ground, added to oats and spices, and boiled in a sheep's bladder.

Thomson recited the poem, pausing after every verse to translate to modern English.

It's filled with wit and read with great enthusiasm.

Tickets for Robbie Burns Night in the Highlands can be purchased at the Haliburton Legion, Canoe FM, and from local Haliburton Highlanders Pipes and Drums band members

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Ways to weather winter

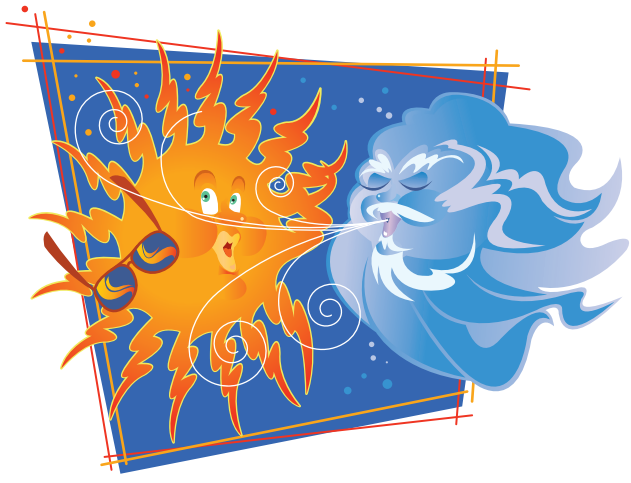
KATE BUTLER
Special to *County Life*

It's that time of year when you might come across references to Blue Monday, reputed to be the most depressing day of the year.

In truth, the concept was invented by a travel company as a way to sell more sun holidays! That said, winter can seem like a long season for those who aren't fans of it, so how can we make it a bit better? Here are a few ideas …

Firstly, take advantage of every bit of sunshine you can get! In the winter, it might seem like the overcast skies are never ending, so when you see the sun, get outside, or at the very least, try to stake out a spot by a window. Also take heart in the fact that the days are already getting longer. Sunset is already over 20 minutes later than it was on the shortest day of the year and we're gaining more minutes of daylight every single day.

As the days grow longer, it means more time for outdoor activities and there is great value in getting even a bit of fresh air and exercise. A winter walk in town can be invigorating, or you could add some snowshoes to your walk and take to the trails. Do you enjoy cycling in the summer? Perhaps try fat biking this winter. Maybe dig out that set of skis that's been languishing in the garage and rediscover the sport.



In addition to the many people who are enthusiastic about winter sports, I know there are others who prefer the indoor side of winter, and if that's you, embrace it fully! You may recall a few years ago when the Danish concept of hygge took the world by storm, leading to everything from exclusive product lines to guidebooks as to how to do it right. To oversimplify, at its core, it's all about coziness, something which can certainly make winter more pleasant, and which doesn't actually require any particular gear or any rules to be followed. It might be a soft blanket and a cup of your favourite tea or friends gathered for a movie night. The possibilities are endless!

When considering your winter activities, also give some thought to those things that make you lose track of time, and no, I don't mean doom scrolling! Which activities give you a real sense of pleasure? It might be a favourite hobby, books by an author you adore or spending time with friends or family members who make you laugh so hard that tears stream down your face. Sometimes in the busyness of daily life, we can let these sorts of activities be pushed to the periphery, but they are so valuable for our wellbeing - not just in the winter, but any time of year.

A lovely way to make the most of these sorts of moments is to also make note of them for the future. Taking a few minutes in the evening to write down good things that happened in your day reminds you to keep your eyes open for more pleasant things and makes a lovely document to look back on in the future - whatever the season!

I hope you'll find lots of aspects of this winter to embrace and enjoy!

Top 10 reasons why horseshoes were initially invented

ONE OF the great inventions, as least as far as horses are concerned, was the horseshoe. Word has it, they were far more thrilled about that than the saddle. A lot of you have probably been wondering why the horseshoe was invented. Well, as luck would have it, I researched questionable sources and discovered several good reasons. So here are the top 10 reasons horseshoes were invented.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Because ring toss was not dangerous enough.
2. To accompany the invention of horse socks.
3. To counter those store signs that said, "No shoes, no shirt, no service."
4. The French and their constant need to push the boundaries of fashion.
5. Blacksmiths needed to do something with all that bent metal.
6. Clip-clop enthusiasts wanted to improve the riding experience.
7. To create a new kind of track that would stump the professional trackers of the day.
8. Buying two pairs of cowboy boots for the horse was prohibitively expensive.
9. Early experiments with horse skateboards were a disaster.
10. To help CSI detectives determine if horses were potential suspects when determining what stampeded over the victim.

Winter

River, breathing, beneath a sheath of ice,
slivers of River, drinking Air and light, water, black as the wings of crows,
that flap through Air, as Wind ripples across its surface,
winter see-sawing between freeze and thaw, as I stand on the River's edge, amongst the pebbles and stones,
curling into my coat, listening to the caws of crows, reading the calligraphy of their flight,
'till the scribbles of their wings fade into the blankness of Sky,
my eyes gazing into the space they leave behind, on this second day of the year,
the face of Sun, smeared by clouds, the quiet of Sky, as the crows fly beyond where my eyes can see,
wondering what their eyes see when their wings carry them along a current of Air, towards a familiar place,
or maybe somewhere brand new, before they return to their nests to rest,
flapping above the silver thread of River and the toothpicks of trees, the pebbles of boulders and the tears of streams,
trickling through forests shrunken to shrubs, from the view, up there, somewhere, Air, stripped bare of sound,
only the whoosh of Wind brushing their wings, as I inhale, slow and deep,
the pureness of Air, bathing my Breath that flows through my chest,
as I pluck up a few pebbles and stones from the shore,
warming them in my palm, before I hurl them through Air,
hearing the plink as they land in a black puddle of River, not sealed in ice,
listening to the silence as they sink deeper into the River,
wondering whether they pass any fish, swishing in the darkness,
breathing beneath a sheath of ice, wondering whether there's a language between fish like there is between birds,
deeper than words, as their fins and tails swirl a trail through the water,
whether their Breath slows in winter, or when they sleep beneath this ceiling of ice,
sealed from Air and light 'till spring or a winter thaw,
my eyes sliding along the frozen River, trying to see past the surface of things,
wondering what this year will bring, as I resolve to listen deeper to what people say and don't say,
to hear beyond the words, to the feelings sealed below,
like a River sheathed in a skin of ice, cradling sleeping stones.

Sylvie Kalenda

Five generations of Coneybeare's Butcher Shop

BRITNEY PAGLIUCA
County Life Staff

Coneybeare's Butcher Shop remains in the family for five generations. Standing behind the same display counter as their great-grandfather and grandfather, Mckay and Lily continue the Coneybeare legacy. From left, Mckay, Chris, and Lily Coneybeare. /BRITNEY PAGLIUCA Staff

Mckay Coneybeare, the son of Coneybeare's Butcher Shop owner Chris Coneybeare, loves it when customers ask him if their shop has opened recently. It means he gets to reply with a smile and a glowing: "No, we've actually been here since the 1940s."

The Coneybeares have been practicing the butcher trade, which has been passed down through the family for nearly a century, serving the community of Minden with pride, gratitude, and expertise.

The legacy of Coneybeare's Butcher Shop started with Harry Easton, Chris's great step-grandfather, who came to Haliburton from Sussex, England in 1924 at the age of 51. Easton married Amy Coneybeare, who had lost her husband, William Arthur Coneybeare, during the First World War.

Easton came from a family of butchers in England and had learned the trade during his youth. When he moved to Canada, he had plans to open his own shop and continue working as a butcher. According to The Lindsay Daily Post, in 1925, he fulfilled his plans and successfully opened a butcher shop in Haliburton.

Moving to Minden in 1931, Easton soon relocated the butcher shop to its current location on the main street in Minden.

Chris reminds us that their butcher shop operated much differently in the 1940s than it does today. "They used to pick up live cattle from the train station in Gelert," he said, "and then walk them to the slaughterhouse just off of South Lake Road."

Chris recalls that in the early 1950s, Easton's Butcher Shop became The Red and White, a grocery store that sold produce, fresh meats, and other goods. "It changed around the same time that the Dollo brothers came to town, Peter and Joe," Chris said. "They had set up a produce stand in conjunction with Easton's Meat Market and went on to establish Dollo's IGA, who would become our competitors."

It was also during this time that the shop was taken over by Chris' grandfather, William Arthur "Bill" Coneybeare, and Bill's half-brother, Lance Easton. Though Lance eventually moved on to open Easton's Red and White in Haliburton.

The Red and White operated until 1981 when Chris' father, William Alan "Cub" Coneybeare, decided to close, and convert the space back into a butcher shop – Coneybeare's Butcher Shop.

Chris says that his favourite memory from working at the shop in those days was calling up his grandfather to ask if he would come and wrap the meat for him. "This is when I'd get to hear all the stories about the history of the shop," he said.

Chris received the family business eight years later in 1989, following a tradition of passing on the business that has been upheld since its inception – and is soon to continue.

Over the past year, Chris has partially retired, and now his kids, Mckay and Lily have taken over all shop operations at Coneybeare's. They have been working at the shop from a young age, just like their father did before them, learning the trade from generations of family knowledge.

Siblings Lily and Mckay both agreed that one of the best ways to learn from their dad, was to watch carefully and take their time with the cuts. "My dad always says that every time we cut a piece of meat, it should look like something you'd want to eat," Mckay said. "We always use that as a rule of thumb."

Lily said that she's often asked if she went to school to be a butcher, but the kind of knowledge she and Mckay have acquired by learning from Chris extends beyond desks and textbooks.

"We learn by doing," Mckay said, remembering the first time he ran the show on his own during a busy, long weekend. "It was something I never thought I could do until I did."

Chris had always hoped that he would be able to pass on the business to his kids. "It's an awesome feeling knowing that they want to keep the business within the family," he said. "They're doing such a good job and coming up with ideas that I would have never thought of myself."

Though Chris did the same in his time, as well. Before he took over, the shop primarily supplied restaurants and filled freezer orders. He extended the shop to allow for a retail space and brought in a display counter so that customers were able to come in and place an order.

Chris says he can clearly remember the first day he made these additions. "I sat on a chair in the front room and waited to see if people would come," he said. And they did.

With Mckay and Lily in the driver's seat, the pair have made some changes of their own.

In March 2023, the shop saw extensive renovations that included new floors, a fresh coat of paint, and a new countertop, and Mckay has taken the lead on developing new product ideas like stuffed and marinated meats.

The pair have also been utilizing social media platforms, like Facebook and Instagram, to promote sales and new products. "When I started at the shop again after finishing school, one of the first things I did was set up an email and create a website," Lily said. They have found that using online platforms has helped reach a larger audience and encourages people from outside of Minden to visit the shop.

Although there have been many changes over the years, one thing has remained constant: Coneybeare's Butcher Shop is where many of us get our Thanksgiving turkeys or summertime steaks. And it's still run by the same family of butchers who opened shop back in 1925.

"It's not a story that you hear much of these days," Lily said.

Mckay said that another thing that has remained constant is Coneybeare's willingness to support community initiatives and charities. "We still choose to donate to causes that my dad did, and my grandfather before that," he said, "like the Minden Food Bank, Rotary and Legion."

The Coneybeares are not only proud of the business they have built and sustained but are also immensely grateful to the community that supports them.

When Chris was asked what it meant to him that the business has stayed in his family for all these years, it was hard for him to find the words. "It means the whole world to me," he said.

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Spacious 1227 sq. ft, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Conveniently located in the Heart of Haliburton. Private lake view balcony! Inground heated garage with parking spot, storage locker. foyer, utility/in-suite laundry. Open concept kitchen/eating/ living room. This unit has radiant in-floor heating, ICF construction, HRV system, ductless A/C.

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

MOLLY'S BISTRO BAKERY & PROPERTY

- Molly is ready to retire!
- Take over this operating business and make it your own.
- Large lot, lots of parking and yard for outdoor dining.
- 2 + 2 Bedroom self contained apartment above.

Lynda Litwin
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705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

WEST GUILFORD BUILDING LOT $149,000

- 1.2 Acre Lot
- Driveway entrance already in place
- Power at lot line
- Just off Highway 118 on a privately maintained road
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- Close to Sir Sams, golf courses and restaurants

Kelly Mercer
Broker
705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

MINDEN HOME $420,000

- 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom
- C4 Zoning with great potential
- Attached 2 car garage

Lisa Mercer
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705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

$2,900,000

222 acres of rolling Canadian Shield• Sparkling waters of both Cedar & Otter Lakes• Great opportunity • Gorgeous natural views where wildlife abounds.• Draft Plan available for 12 multi-acre lots• Easy 2-hour drive from GTA with year round access.

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Jacquie Barry
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PAUDASH LAKE $999,999

- 1071 Norwester Rd
- 2 Ac w/ 147 ft frtg
- Finished Bsmt w/ walkout
- 3 Bed / 1 Bath

Cheryl Bolger
Sales Representative
705-306-9450
cheryl@cherylbolger.ca

A MUST SEE! $739,000

Beautiful 3+1 bdrm, 2 bath home sitting on over 2 acres. Cathedral ceiling with floor-to-ceiling granite fireplace, over 2,300 sq. ft. of living space and great privacy. Primary bdrm has his/hers walk-in closets, and walkout to sunroom and hot tub. Large 2-bay garage with mezzanine and work area and so much more.

Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
705-935-1011
MovingTheHighlands.com

INCOME OPPORTUNITY $749,900

SOLAR PANEL INCOME GENERATING PROPERTY (on average $4,100/yr) This Rural country home is not far from the Hamlet of Gooderham in the southern area of Haliburton County. It has 1.27 acres with 425' on the highway but is totally secluded with a panoramic vista over the valley where the Irondale River flows, a spectacular elevated view!

Vince Duchene
Broker
705-457-0046
www.vinceduchene.ca

11 ACRE COUNTRY ESTATE $949,000

1497 25th Line, Algonquin Highlands
- Check out this brand new bungalow featuring 2,072 sq ft with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on 11 beautiful acres in the heart of Haliburton Highlands.
- Low maintenance living with a new 4500L septic, drilled well, in floor heating throughout the entire home and full 7 year Tarion Home Warranty
- Absolute pleasure to show, give me a call today and start living the country lifestyle!

Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
705-455-2500
info@cherylsmithremax
cherylsmithremax.com

$799,900

- Haliburton in-town home
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Sales Representatives/Broker*
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Jeff Strano 705-761-7629
Andrea Strano* 705-457-5984
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Wishing you a New Year full of peace and love
2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR
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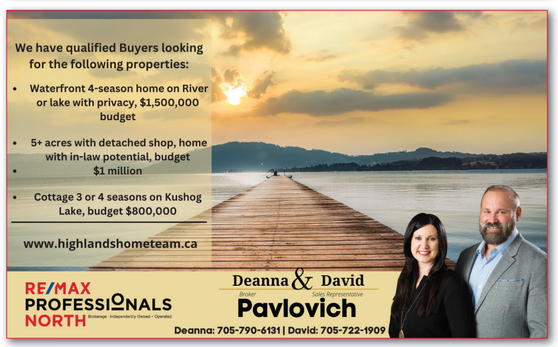
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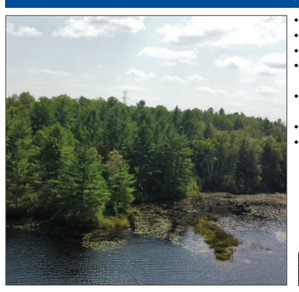
BEER LAKE $289,000



- Beautiful quiet lake, west of Minden
- 900 ft of shoreline, 5.9 acres
- Smooth rocky point with pines
- Gentle lot well treed, gorgeous sunsets
- Lightly developed lake with balance of shoreline crown
- 1000's of acres of crown to the west
- Rough 4x4 road to lot

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

HSF 2024
Live Theatre!
Highlands Summer Festival

2024 Audition Invitation

The Highlands Summer Festival is holding auditions for the following 2024 productions:

- **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (a musical)**
- **The Miracle Worker**
- **The Birds & the Bees**

Saturday, January 27, from 10 a.m.
Sunday, January 28, from 12:30 p.m.

at **St. George's Anglican Church**
617 Mountain Street, Haliburton

Character descriptions and other important details, including how to register, can be found in the audition package, linked from the HSF home page at **www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca**

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
When: Monday mornings
9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

Creative Collaborations
When: Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church. 617 Mountain Street
Share your skills. Learn new skills. Bring your own project or work on the featured project. Beginners Welcome. Contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for details.

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays, at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain Street
Safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Cribbage and Euchre
When: Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain St.
Please join us Tuesdays for cribbage and Euchre at St. George's Anglican Church. With funding from the Government of Ontario. Please contact lynnhiggsthompson@haliburtonanglican.ca for more information.

Super Cash Calendar Draws
When: Second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m. January until October.
Where: Haliburton Legion
Three tickets pulled per night. First ticket winner receives $100, second ticket $200, and third ticket $500. Winners will be posted every month on www.haliburtonlions.com. Public is welcome to attend the draws at the Lions meetings.

Weekly Meat Rolls
When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 & 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw at the Coboconk Legion. 5 spins for $10. The first 4 rounds are for highest and lowest score with 2 winners per round. The last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

Wilberforce Heritage Guild Annual Meeting
When: Jan. 22, 7 p.m.
Where: Wilberforce Red Cross Museum
The Wilberforce Heritage Guild invites you to attend our 2024 Annual Meeting. Contact Barb Schofield at 705-448-2598 or wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca

Travel for Seniors
When: Jan. 24, 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain St.
Join Linda Coneybeare for a free information session. This will cover helpful topics such as new travel rules, post-Covid travel, insurance needs, types of travel, and mobility issues.

Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon
When: Jan. 26, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 & 35
Please join us for a luncheon prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. The cost is $13 to attend. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

Ice rink

Moonlight flooding the ice rink,
as the silhouette stands beneath mid-night Sky,
frozen as the icicle fangs, dangling from the eaves, gripping a hose in his hands,
water spouting in a perfect arc through Air, before it lands, the ice rink, silent, this time of night,
no hockey pucks hitting the boards, no older boys bellowing, GOAL!!!, only the next door neighbour and his hose,
alone, with the night and the willows, in the park across the street,
as I peer through a crack in the curtains, on nights when I can't sleep,
creeping out of bed to watch the neighbour water the rink, where I skate every day after school,
rushing Home to wobble in my skate guards, across the street, where I practice skating backwards and twirls,
feeling Wind on my cheeks and beneath my feet, propelling me forward
as I skate around and around the ice rink, before the big kids come,
taking over the ice with their hockey sticks and pucks, as me and the other smaller kids are sidelined,
wishing we had a rink of our own,
as I lie in bed each night, listening to pucks thud against the boards, 'till I sink into sleep,
waking each morning, greeting the empty ice rink, Hello, as I pass it on the way to school,
wondering whether it likes the quiet, before the little kids come to practice, before the older boys arrive, to bellow, GOAL!!!,
nothing changing, day after day, year after year, 'till one day it does,
where beside the boarded ice rink, a smaller rink springs into Life,
the next door neighbour standing there, night after night, moonlight flooding his silhouette, as he grips the hose in his hands,
as I peer through a crack in the curtains, watching the water flood the ground, surrounded by willows, that watched over us,
as we skated each day after school, shrieking loud as the boys who scored goals, beside us,
having a rink of our own to skate on as long as we wanted, 'till the little kids grew older,
and new ones replaced us, as we moved away,
but the next door neighbour stayed, year after year, growing older, his silhouette, hunched in the moonlight, flooding the ice rink,
'till the year before he passed away, new neighbourhood Dads continuing the tradition,
taking turns, so the little kids have a place to skate, while the older boys score goals.
Sometimes, I still hear the sound of pucks hitting the boards, on nights when I can't sleep,
far from the white bungalow and the ice rink across the street,
wondering whether the willows are still there, the guardians of the park, the ice rink, gleaming in the moonlight, frozen as memories of childhood, thawing in the dark.

Sylvie Kalenda

Great skate
Friends and families gathered at the AJ LaRue Arena for some public skating ice time on Sunday, Jan. 7. Visit calendar.dysartetal.ca/Default/Month?_mid_=1473 to view all public skating sessions. /TIM YANO Special to *County Life*

Preparing for the history of tomorrow

If you are of a certain vintage, you may remember an animated television series called ReBoot. Running from 1994-1998, ReBoot was set in the inner world of a computer with the main characters battling computer virus villains. The series was created entirely with computer generated imagery (CGI) and gained a dedicated following. Mainframe Entertainment, the Vancouver-based company behind ReBoot, was also behind the CGI characters featured in the music video for the Dire Straits hit "Money for Nothing".

ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING

Humans and Technology

Recently, the team behind an upcoming documentary about ReBoot unearthed the original master tapes for the series. Rendered on PAL D-1 tape cassettes, the discovery was met with excitement, but posed a big challenge – the production company no longer had the type of tape deck required to play those tapes. While the documentary team has put the word out to try and find the correct deck, the footage remains unviewable until the correct technology needed to read it is found.

ReBoot is an interesting example of where technology meets the preservation of history. Digital formats have changed rapidly over time, leaving some formats essentially orphaned without the technology to read them. As well, certain digital formats degrade as copies are made, making the storage of the original digital copy an important consideration. Besides not being able to read the original PAL D-1 master tapes of ReBoot, the tape itself may be nearing the end of its useable lifespan. Being able to transfer the data off those tapes will, hopefully, yield a copy that is as close as possible to the original for preservation.

You may be wondering about why there would be such an interest in a cartoon from the 90s. It turns out, ReBoot does carry some historical significance. It was one of the first television series produced entirely using CGI, representing a milestone in, as well as a major Canadian contribution to, television history. It has taken a group of interested and dedicated enthusiasts to bring about even the potential for this bit of Canadiana to be preserved for posterity.

The sheer volume of digital data generated over the last half-century that might be deemed worthy of historical preservation is massive. The Library of Congress attempted to archive years of tweets from the social media platform formerly known as Twitter before storage limitations and changes to tweet formatting made the project unfeasible. The Internet Archive, with its Wayback Machine, attempts to preserve website data but is limited by how much of the vastness of the internet its bots can crawl. Wikipedia, a huge tome of information, has notability guidelines for what warrants a stand-alone article. How many points of view are lost in the undertow of this surfeit of digital history? What is deemed remarkable enough to keep?

What we keep and how we keep it is an ongoing question in our society and has been since long before anything digital. Those decisions can have weighty social consequences. We often see history as immutable, but it is based on a series of decisions made by our institutions and society reflecting a specific point of view. Naming a small Ontario town after a humourist who never set foot there, while failing to recognize the many hundreds of years of Indigenous history in the area, were decisions. Decisions on what to preserve, commemorate, and celebrate, are very often made by people with means and power resulting in a historical perspective that is at best incomplete and at worst damaging.

Technology can at least help give a voice to those whose history has gone unrecognized. For example, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has an online archive documenting Residential Schools in Canada and the reconciliation process. The Tulsa Historical Society and Museum houses an online exhibit commemorating the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre in which white rioters nearly destroyed the Greenwood District of Tulsa, Oklahoma, known as Black Wall Street, killing hundreds of black Tulsans. These digital collections help provide wider access to physical collections along with analysis.

Today, much of what may someday be an artefact is born digital. To this end, digital archive projects work to preserve social media posts, videos, and other digital ephemera. For example, Arizona State University's Journal of the Plague Year crowd sources COVID-19 pandemic experiences and includes a collection focusing on the experience of the LGBTQ+ community, ensuring this perspective won't be overlooked by history.

While we might romantically view history through a lens of handwritten letters and grainy photographs, advances in technology mean that what might become the historical record will include a diverse collection of ideas, formats, and voices. How we preserve this history is a problem we need to deal with now so that researchers in the future can truly learn about how we lived today.

Fun in February
in Dysart et al
Pick up your passport book starting January 17 at any of these locations:
• Haliburton Highlands Museum
• Haliburton Welcome Centre
• Dysart Municipal Office
• Dysart Branch of the Haliburton County Library
Try some of the activities listed and enter for your chance to win one of five prizes.
Visit dysartetal.ca/funinFebruary for more info

Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday, 1 p.m. Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Sept to June)
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. $500. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

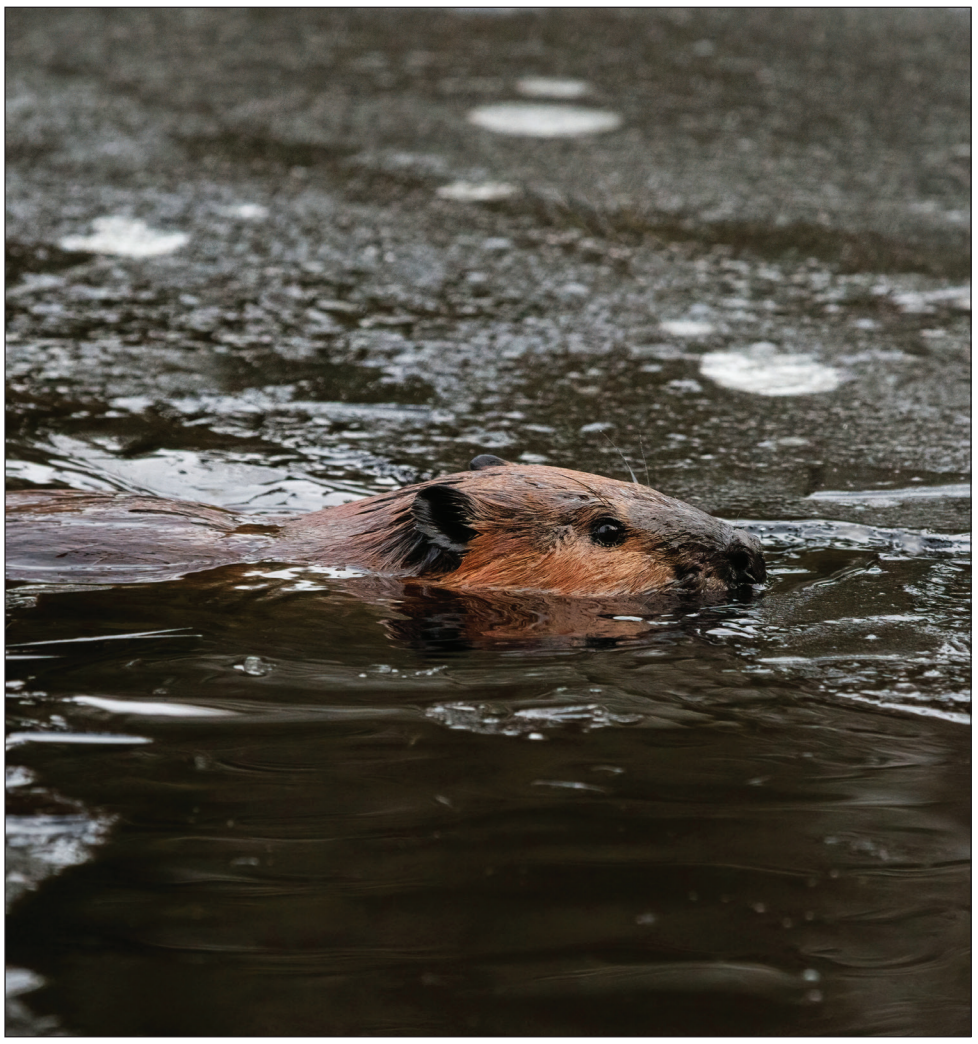
Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Wilberforce

Jan. 18 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Jan. 19 - Open 2 to 9 p.m. Wings/Jam 5 to 8 p.m.
Jan. 20 - Pat & Phyllis Gallen Fish Derby see below Open 2 to 6 p.m. - Meat Draw 3 p.m.
Jan. 21 to 23 - Closed
Jan. 24 - Open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts 2 p.m.
Pat & Phyllis Gallen Fish Derby - weather and ice permitting
Saturday, Jan. 20 - Registration up to 9 p.m. close at the Legion Jan. 19 or until 10 a.m. Jan. 20 at the Wilberforce Service Centre. Weigh in 3 to 6 p.m. Hot Chili for sale during the weigh-in for hungry fishermen.
If you are planning an event our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater. Please call the branch at 705-448-2221 to arrange your event.

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email vivian@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.



A beaver swims among ice in an Algonquin Highlands pond. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

A pine Martin stands on its hind legs. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Home Game

BURLINGTON CHARGERS VS HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Saturday, Jan. 20 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games

Saturday, Jan. 27
4 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10
4 p.m.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

For more information please visit our website

WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

The sun shows itself over Dark Lake in Wilberforce. /Submitted by Vivien Mausz

Fresh snow lands on a leaf hanging on past the fall. /Submitted by Jill Moulton

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540 COMING EVENTS

Trappers Workshop
Sunday, Jan. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre in Wilberforce. Join the Minden District Fur Harvesters and numerous vendors for displays, demonstrations, competitions and door prizes throughout the day! Admission by donation. Lunch available. Food will also be collected for the local food bank. Everyone is welcome to attend. For further info please contact Ted at **705-448-2877**

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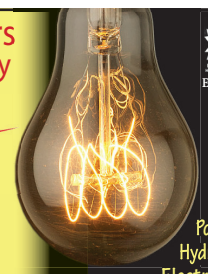

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Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Clowning around

There was no shortage of fancy footwork during Circus Terrifico at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Jan. 15. More on page 22. **Chad Ingram** Staff

County scours budget for savings

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

It's clear that county councillors want to keep the 2012 Haliburton County budget as austere as possible.

Councillors were discussing department draft budgets during a series of committee meetings on Jan. 11.

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid wanted to know, if necessary, what kind of cuts could be made in the roads department budget.

The roads department has the largest budget of any county department.

"County council is in the process of rooting through the draft budgets of all the departments [and the whole picture] is not looking very positive, in my opinion," Reid said during the roads committee meeting. "It may be that we need to find more places to cut and I just want to get the committee's thoughts on the whole notion of road construction versus road maintenance. I understand our operating philosophy and I think it's a good one, but I'm wondering how sustainable that is, given the size of our county, the geographic breadth of the county and the fact the Liberal government did make a commitment to have a 10-year infrastructure plan."

That plan has yet to be announced.

"Personally, I think the priority should be on maintenance and not on construction," said Reid, who appreciated roads superintendent Doug Ray had already reduced his draft budget, but was adamant the county needed a contingency plan. "We may have to live with roads that are not as good as we want them."

The draft roads budget includes two major construc-

see WE page 16

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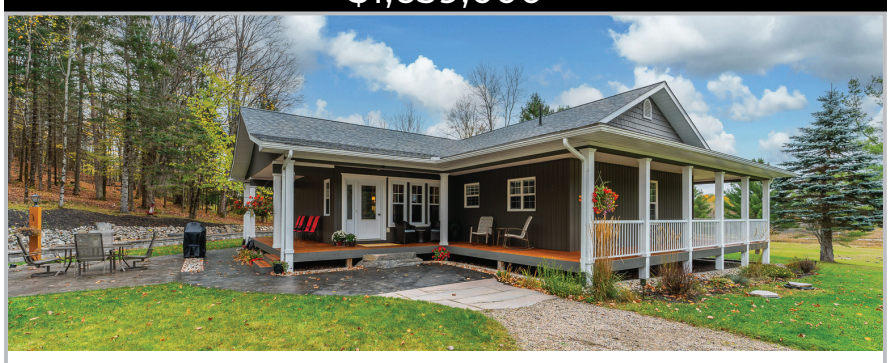

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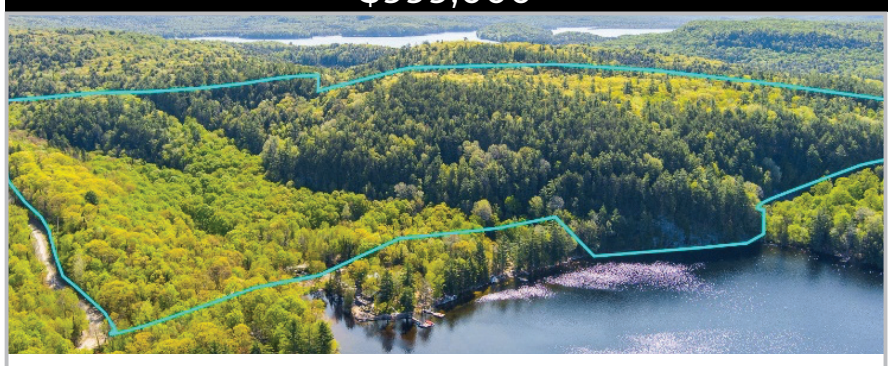

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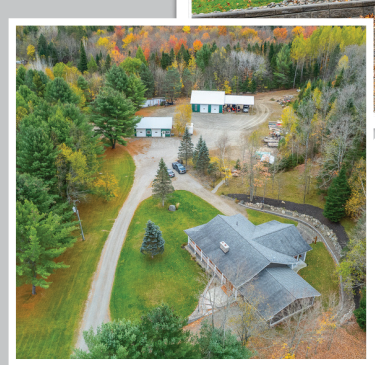

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